

Utility District in Oregon and Trinity Public Utility District in Northern California, amply prepared Jeff for his extensive role at South San Joaquin Irrigation District. He began with the company in June of 2004, and after 3 short years was appointed as the general manager.

During Jeff's tenure with South San Joaquin Irrigation District, he was instrumental in implementing successful advances to the region. A solar farm was built to provide power to the Nick C. DeGroot Water Treatment Plant which supplies the drinking water to Manteca, Lathrop and Tracy at a minimum cost. In addition, an award winning, state of the art pressurized water delivery system was built called the Division 9 Irrigation Enhancement Project. This project has received numerous state, national, and international awards and recognition.

One of Jeff's most notable contributions was successfully getting the approval for South San Joaquin Irrigation District to become the retail electric provider in its service territory. Because of this accomplishment, all current PG&E customers in Escalon, Manteca and Ripon will see a 15% rate discount. This is a great triumph for the citizens of South San Joaquin County.

With California experiencing its fourth consecutive year in a serious drought, Jeff has expertly managed the irrigation district through its most difficult water delivery year in the district's history. He is implementing a succession plan that would assure a smooth transition to new management as they continue to work through the severe drought. Jeff plans on continuing his active involvement in water and energy issues.

Being involved in the community is important to Jeff, as he is a member of the Manteca Rotary Club and a director for the Give Every Child a Chance organization. He is on the board of The Utility Reform Network, as well as the board of the Local Energy Aggregation Network.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in honoring and commending the outstanding contributions made to the South San Joaquin County Irrigation District by the General Manager Jeff Shields. We wish him continued success in his retirement and his future endeavors.

RECOGNIZING HILARY STERN ON HER RETIREMENT

HON. ADAM SMITH

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 4, 2015

Mr. SMITH of Washington. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor Hilary Stern, Executive Director at Casa Latina, on her retirement after twenty-one years of hard and dedicated work that has built opportunities and provided a voice for members of the Latino community in Seattle.

Prior to starting Casa Latina, a Seattle-based non-profit, Hilary sensed tension between the incoming Latino workers and the community at large. In response, Hilary founded Casa Latina in 1994 and began offering services on the sidewalks and in borrowed space. These services included English classes and educational street theater productions.

Despite the positive impact of these services, Hilary believed that Casa Latina could do more. This drove her to expand the scope of

Casa Latina's services to also assist members of the Latino community to achieve greater economic gains and to participate to higher degrees in civic efforts. With this vision, Hilary was able to transform Casa Latina into a large, nonprofit social organization that focused on providing a variety of educational and economic opportunities for hundreds of Latino men and women living in Seattle. These services included its previous, traditional programs, along with others, such as day labor employment, workplace safety and job skill trainings, leadership development and dealing with issues of public policy that affect immigrant workers.

After two decades at Casa Latina, Hilary recently announced that a new Executive Director would take her place in early 2016. Despite moving on from the role of Executive Director, Hilary plans to continue to be actively involved in contributing towards building a better society for everyone both within and outside of Seattle.

Mr. Speaker, it is with great honor that I recognize and congratulate Hilary Stern on her outstanding work as Executive Director for Casa Latina.

RECOGNIZING SPRINGFIELD RE-MANUFACTURING CORPORATION FOR THEIR RECERTIFICATION AS A VOLUNTARY PROTECTION PROGRAMS STAR SITE

HON. BILLY LONG

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 4, 2015

Mr. LONG. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Springfield ReManufacturing Corporation's (SRC) employee owners, who have recently earned their workplace's recertification as a Voluntary Protection Programs (VPP) Star Site, making it their 20th consecutive year to be hailed with that commendation by the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA).

OSHA's VPP program encourages private industry and federal agencies to prevent workplace hazards by emphasizing better worker and management cooperation and analysis involvement. The program's goal is to achieve injury and illness rates that are below National Bureau of Labor Statistics averages for respective industries. A "Star" certification is the highest level of recognition OSHA offers, and denotes that a site has exemplary workplace standards and health management programs.

The employee owners at SRC have worked for many years to achieve this goal, and will be formally receiving their award this Friday, November 6, 2015, at a celebratory ceremony and luncheon.

Mr. Speaker, it is my pleasure to help recognize SRC for this great achievement and wish its workers a joyous and well-earned celebration of their success. The corporation's employee ownership, "Open Book Management," philosophy has clearly paid off. This commendation is proof that their employees have made Missouri's Seventh Congressional district a better place to work and, in turn, a better place to live.

HONORING THE LEGACY OF PAUL JENNINGS

HON. TOM PRICE

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 4, 2015

Mr. TOM PRICE of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, today I would like to speak about the unfortunate passing of a good friend, Paul Jennings. Having known Paul for years, including back in my time in the Georgia General Assembly, I know personally his hard work ethic and the legacy he will leave behind with those he's influenced.

After a successful marketing career in Manhattan, Paul came to the state of Georgia in 1970 to work for Decatur Federal Savings and Loan. During his two decades with the company, Paul helped Decatur Federal become a leading mortgage lender in Georgia from his position of Senior Vice President of Marketing. Paul was a leader of local and national marketing organizations, where he was able to be a mentor and role model to students and young professionals alike. From 1998 to 2002, I was able to serve alongside my friend, Paul, where he served in the Georgia State House of Representatives.

A man of Paul Jennings' integrity and compassion is hard to come by. In his free time, Paul served on the boards of the United Way, DeKalb Medical Center, arts groups, and other local nonprofits that continue to serve the people of Georgia, just as Paul did. On behalf of the Sixth District of Georgia, we extend our thoughts and prayers to Paul's wife Edna, his daughter Jan, and his sons Danny, David, and Tommy.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. BILL HUIZENGA

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 4, 2015

Mr. HUIZENGA of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, I rise today regarding a missed vote on Tuesday, November 3, 2015. Had I been present for roll call vote number 585, H. Res. 354, Expressing the sense of the House of Representatives regarding the safety and security of Jewish communities in Europe, I would have voted "yea."

RECOGNIZING JILL WAKEFIELD ON HER RETIREMENT

HON. ADAM SMITH

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 4, 2015

Mr. SMITH of Washington. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor Jill Wakefield, Chancellor of Seattle Colleges, on her retirement after her forty impactful years working in higher education throughout Seattle.

Prior to becoming Chancellor in 2009, Jill was already deeply involved in the Seattle's higher education community, having served in various capacities at South Seattle College (SSC) for more than thirty years. Jill began her tenure at South Seattle College as a program assistant in the Veterans office and her